

In The Claims

Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 14, 15 are amended herein, as marked up in Appendix A.

No claims have been amended prior to the present office action response.

Currently pending claims 1-20 for consideration by the Examiner are as follows:

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1. (Amended) A handheld device for rapidly and easily inputting text, comprising: a display for showing the input of text; and a touch pad disposed anywhere on said handheld device except over said display, said touch pad being pressure sensitive, wherein finger pressure will input textual information upon said display.

2. The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said device further comprises means for indicating finger positions on said touch pad.

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3. (Amended) A handheld device for rapidly and easily inputting text, comprising: a display for showing the input of text; and a touch pad disposed adjacent said display that simulates a keyboard, said touch pad being pressure sensitive, wherein finger pressure will input textual information upon said display, and further comprising means for adjusting pressure threshold of said touch pad, below which said display is dormant and above which said finger positions are displayed.

4. (Amended) The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said touch pad comprises a keyboard for placement of fingers.

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5. (Amended) The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said touch pad comprises a standard keyboard configuration.

6. The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said touch pad comprises a multiplicity of finger sensitive pressure zones.

7. The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said touch pad is positioned behind said display.

8. The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said display comprises an LCD screen.

9. The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said display comprises means for displaying text in a word processing format.

10. The handheld device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said touch pad comprises means for adjusting finger pressure necessary for activating said keyboard and inputting text.

a3 11. (Amended) A handheld portable electronic device for inputting text in a relatively rapid manner, comprising: a display for showing the input of text; and a touch pad disposed anywhere on said handheld device except over said display, said touch pad being pressure sensitive, wherein finger pressure inputs finger positions and textual information upon said display.

12. (Amended) A handheld portable electronic device for inputting text in a relatively rapid manner, comprising: a display for showing the input of text; and a touch pad disposed adjacent said display that simulates a keyboard, said touch pad being pressure sensitive, wherein said device further comprises means for distinguishing thresholds for pressure applied to said touch pad.

13. The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 12, wherein pressure below a predetermined threshold applied to said touch pad by the fingers of a user results in said display indicating positions of said fingers relative to said touch pad and pressure above said predetermined threshold applied to said touch pad by the fingers of a user results in said textual information being entered into said device and displayed on said display.

a4 14. (Amended) The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said touch pad comprises a keyboard for placement of fingers.

15. (Amended) The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said touch pad comprises a standard keyboard configuration.

16. The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said touch pad comprises a multiplicity of finger sensitive pressure pads.

17. The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said touch pad is positioned behind said display.

18. The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said display comprises an LCD screen.

19. The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said display comprises means for displaying text in a word processing format.

20. The handheld portable electronic device in accordance with claim 11, wherein said touch pad comprises means for adjusting finger pressure necessary for activating said touch pad and inputting text.